

Species of whose occurrence during autumn or winter I obtained satisfactory proof.

1. *Podilymbus podiceps*. PIED-BILLED GREBE.—At Highlands I examined the skin of one of these Grebes which had been shot the preceding autumn in a mill-pond near the town.

2. *Branta canadensis*. CANADA GOOSE.—Often seen in small numbers during the spring and autumn migrations.

3. *Porzana carolina*. CAROLINA RAIL.—Of irregular occurrence near Asheville in early autumn. One gentleman assured me that during a heavy easterly storm in September, 1883, he bagged twenty specimens in the meadows along the French Broad River.

4. *Gallinago delicata*. WILSON'S SNIBE.—This well-known game bird visits the meadows about Asheville in sufficient numbers to afford fairly good shooting. It occurs only during the spring and autumn migrations.

5. *Ardea herodias*. GREAT BLUE HERON.—Seen occasionally along the French Broad River.

6. *Ectopistes migratorius*. WILD PIGEON.—Said to occur in numbers in autumn and winter, especially when beech mast is abundant.

7. *Accipiter velox*. SHARP-SHINNED HAWK.—At Highlands I was shown the wings and tails of several specimens shot the preceding autumn.

8. *Falco sparverius*. SPARROW HAWK.—I include this Hawk on precisely the same evidence as the Sharp-shin, viz., that of the examination of some wings and tails in the possession of a gentleman at Highlands. The species probably breeds also, but of this I have no proof.

9. *Buteo borealis*. RED-TAILED HAWK.—An adult female, very large and pale, shot by Mr. Boynton at Highlands, February 8, 1886, reaches me just in time for mention in this connection. With it Mr. Boynton also sends:

10. *Melanerpes carolinus*.—RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER.—A male shot at Highlands (4000 ft.) Feb. 6, 1886.

11. *Scolecophagus carolinus*. RUSTY GRACKLE.—One taken at Highlands, January 23, 1886. "It has been about the town all winter in company with a flock of Meadow-larks."

A LIST OF THE BIRDS OBTAINED IN VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

BY BARTON W. EVERMANN.

(Concluded from p. 97.)

101. **Phalænoptilus nuttali*. (418.) POOR-WILL.—Summer resident; not common. During two years I secured but one specimen.

102. **Chordeiles virginianus henryi*. (420 a.) WESTERN NIGHT-HAWK.—Common migrant; a few breed.

103. *Micropus melanoleucus*. (425.) WHITE-THROATED SWIFT.—On February 19, 1881, while on a high *mesa* near where Santa Paula Creek enters the valley, I saw perhaps a score of White-throated Swifts circling high in air overhead. Toward evening they came lower down and I succeeded in getting three fine specimens, two females and one male. I saw the bird on a few other occasions, but never secured any other specimens.

104. **Trochilus alexandri*. (429.) BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD.—Rather common summer resident.

105. **Trochilus costæ*. (430.) COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD.—Summer resident, rare. I have but one specimen obtained in the county.

106. **Trochilus annæ*. (431.) ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD.—A summer resident; more common than either of the preceding.

107. **Trochilus rufus*. (433.) RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD.—This I consider the most abundant species of the Hummers found in the county. It is resident, except for a few weeks in midwinter. I found it very common in April and May in the thickets near the mouth of the Santa Clara River.

Allen's Hummingbird (*Trochilus alleni*) (434) likely occurs in the county, but as I never identified it I do not include it in this list.

108. **Tyrannus verticalis*. (447.) WESTERN KINGBIRD.—A rather common summer resident, arriving last week in March. Full sets of eggs may be found by May 1.

109. **Tyrannus vociferans*. (448.) CASSIN'S KINGBIRD.—Summer resident; more common than *verticalis*. Breeds perhaps a little earlier. The eggs of these two species can hardly be distinguished with certainty, hence the birds should be identified before taking the eggs.

110. **Myiarchus cinerascens*. (454.) ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER.—A summer resident; arrives about the middle of April. Not very common.

111. *Sayornis saya*. (457.) SAY'S PHÆBE.—A winter resident; not common. I think a few remain to breed, though I never found its nest.

112. **Sayornis nigricans*. (458.) BLACK PHÆBE.—A common resident throughout the year. Nests as early as April 1.

113. **Contopus richardsoni*. (462.) WESTERN WOOD PEWEE.—This species is a summer resident, but not common. I have two specimens secured in Ventura County.

114. **Empidonax hammondi*. (468.) HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER.—Summer resident; not common. I have one specimen obtained at Santa Paula, April 10.

115. **Empidonax obscurus*. (469.) WRIGHT'S FLYCATCHER.—I never identified this species as a resident of Ventura County. The only reason why I include it is based upon a set of four eggs which were brought me by a boy at Santa Paula, and which I refer to this species. In color the eggs are a pure white, unspotted, and measure .72 × .60, .73 × .61, .73 × .60.

116. *Otocoris alpestris rubea*. (474 f.) RUDDY SHORE LARK.—An abundant winter resident, often seen in very large flocks. I do not know that any breed in the county. I have seen several specimens taken in the county that differed very little if any from typical *alpestris*.

117. **Corvus americanus*. (488.) AMERICAN CROW.—Common resident.

118. **Corvus caurinus*. (489.) NORTHWEST CROW.—An abundant resident.

119. **Pica nuttalli*. (476.) YELLOW-BILLED MAGPIE.—This noisy bird is resident in the county and abundant in suitable places. They are most likely to be found in any cañon where sheep or other stock are herded. In Wheeler Cañon, near Santa Paula, I always found them abundant. On April 2, 1881, I obtained over sixty eggs from nests in this cañon.

120. **Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis*. (478 a.) BLUE-FRONTED JAY.—Resident in the mountains among the evergreens. I never saw this species in the county except near the head of Santa Paula Creek.

121. **Aphelocoma californica*. (481.) CALIFORNIA JAY.—This Jay is one of the most common and generally distributed birds of the county. It is resident, and begins nesting as early as the first week in March.

122. *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. (497.) YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD.—Abundant winter resident. Most frequently seen in early morning about where hogs are fed. I never found its nest, but think it breeds in the marshes near the coast.

123. **Agelaius gubernator*. (499.) BICOLORED BLACKBIRD.—Common; resident.

124. **Agelaius tricolor*. (500.) TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD.—An abundant resident.

125. **Sturnella magna neglecta*. (501 b.) WESTERN MEADOW LARK.—Abundant in winter; a few remain to breed.

126. **Icterus cucullatus nelsoni*. (585 a.) ARIZONA HOODED ORIOLE.—This handsome bird is a common summer resident, arriving about the first of April. I have traced it as far north as Santa Barbara. It has never before been recorded north of Los Angeles, I believe.

127. **Icterus bullocki*. (508.) BULLOCK'S ORIOLE.—Summer resident; somewhat more common than the Hooded. Arrives last week in March.

128. **Scolecophagus cyanocephalus*. (510.) BREWER'S BLACKBIRD.—One of the most abundant residents. Nests usually in the live-oaks near dwellings.

129. *Carpodacus purpureus californicus*. (517 a.) CALIFORNIA PURPLE FINCH.—A rare winter visitant.

130. **Carpodacus frontalis rhodocolpus*. (519 a.) CRIMSON HOUSE FINCH.—Resident. Perhaps the most abundant bird of the county. Nests anywhere and everywhere,—in porches, old cans, in holes or on limbs of trees, in sides of haystacks, and even in the meshes of the nests of Crows and the larger Hawks. I have found its nest in all these various positions. I have the nest of a Bullock's Oriole inside of which is a House Finch's nest. It contained a full set of eggs when found.

This little bird is much like the English Sparrow now devastating this country, and is in very bad repute among fruit men, who regard it as their worst enemy among the birds.

131. **Spinus tristis*. (529.) AMERICAN GOLDFINCH. — Common. Resident throughout the year.

132. **Spinus psaltria*. (530.) ARKANSAS GOLDFINCH. — Not common. Resident from April to October.

133. **Spinus lawrencei*. (531.) LAWRENCE'S GOLDFINCH. — Common summer resident. Probably the most abundant representative of the genus. Its eggs are readily distinguishable from those of the two preceding by being pure white, while the others are light green, or greenish white.

134. **Ammodramus sandwichensis alaudinus*. (542 *b.*) WESTERN SAVANNA SPARROW. — Resident in old fields and meadows. Not common.

135. **Ammodramus beldingi*. (543.) BELDING'S MARSH SPARROW. — Resident; frequent near the coast.

136. *Poocætes gramineus confinis*. (540 *a.*) WESTERN VESPER SPARROW. — Resident? Not common.

137. **Chondestes grammacus strigatus*. (552 *a.*) WESTERN LARK SPARROW. — Common resident. Scarcely distinguishable from the eastern form.

138. *Zonotrichia gambeli*. (556.) GAMBEL'S SPARROW. — An abundant winter resident.

139. *Zonotrichia coronata*. (557.) GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW. — Winter resident; frequent in the foothills and mountains; seldom seen in the valleys.

140. **Spizella socialis arizonæ*. (560 *a.*) WESTERN CHIPPING SPARROW. — Summer resident. Rare.

141. *Junco hyemalis oregonus*. (567 *a.*) OREGON JUNCO. — Rare winter resident. Seen oftenest high up in the mountains.

142. *Amphispiza belli*. (574.) BELL'S SPARROW. — A rare winter resident among the hills. A pair of fine specimens were gotten October 30, in the mountains near Santa Paula.

143. *Peucæa ruficeps*. (580.) RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW. — A rather common resident, but found only among the mountains.

144. **Melospiza fasciata heermanni*. (581 *c.*) HEERMANN'S SONG SPARROW. — Resident; not very common.

145. **Melospiza fasciata samuelis*. (581 *d.*) SAMUELS'S SONG SPARROW. — Resident; common.

146. **Melospiza fasciata guttata*. (581 *e.*) RUSTY SONG SPARROW. — Resident. Rare.

147. **Pipilo maculatus megalonyx*. (588 *a.*) SPURRED TOWHEE. — Resident. Common.

148. **Pipilo fuscus crissalis*. (591 *b.*) CALIFORNIA BROWN TOWHEE. — Resident. One of the most abundant and best known birds.

149. **Habia melanocephala*. (596.) BLACK-HEADED GROSBEEK. — Summer resident; common. Arrives about April 23. A sweet and pleasing songster.

150. *Guiraca cærulea*. (597.) BLUE GROSBEEK.—Rare. Perhaps a summer resident, but I have never seen it except in the spring.

151. **Passerina amœna*. (599.) LAZULI BUNTING.—This beautiful little bird is rather common as a summer resident.

152. *Piranga ludoviciana*. (607.) WESTERN TANAGER.—A summer resident; not common. It doubtless breeds in the county, although I never succeeded in finding its nest. Arrives from the south about the 23d of April.

153. **Progne subis*. (611.) PURPLE MARTIN. — Summer resident; moderately common, nesting usually in holes in trees. It does not seem to have adopted, to any great extent, the custom of nesting in boxes, so common with this species 'back in the States.'

154. **Petrochelidon lunifrons*. (612.) CLIFF SWALLOW.—An abundant summer resident. In 1881, a colony of more than a hundred pairs nested in a shed in Santa Paula. The nests were fastened to the rafters, much after the manner of the Barn Swallow. Many horse-hairs were plastered into the nests and these often caused the death of the builders. I took from this shed some six or eight dead birds which I found hanging about the nests, they having gotten entangled in the hairs.

155. **Chelidon erythrogaster*. (613.) BARN SWALLOW.—Summer resident, but not common.

156. **Tachycineta bicolor*. (614.) TREE SWALLOW. — Summer resident, abundant. Many breed in holes in the willows near the mouth of the Santa Clara River.

157. **Tachycineta thalassina*. (615.) VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW.—This beautiful Swallow is rather common during the spring migrations. A few remain to breed.

158. **Clivicola riparia*. (616.) BANK SWALLOW.—Summer resident; locally abundant.

159. **Stelgidopteryx serripennis*. (617.) ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW.—Perhaps a common summer resident, but usually confounded with the preceding.

160. *Ampelis cedrorum*. (619.) CEDAR WAXWING.—A frequent winter visitant. Often seen in flocks of six to twenty about the pepper-trees, upon the berries of which they feed.

161. **Phainopepla nitens*. (620.) PHAINOPEPLA.—This is to me one of the most interesting of the birds found in this part of the State. On October 15, 1879, I first met with this species,—a young male which I found in the valley near Santa Paula. While collecting Gambel's Sparrows and Spurred Towhees along a brush-fence I observed this bird flying from one stake to another, darting out frequently after some passing insect. I saw no others until early in the following May, when I met with a flock of a dozen or more in Santa Paula Cañon. They were feeding upon certain insects then common about the elder and sumac bushes which grow plentifully in that part of the cañon. I did not observe them again until August (I was unable to visit the cañon during the summer), when I again found them in small flocks feeding upon the berries of the choke-cherry. Here they remained until late in October, when they migrated southward, to return again about the middle of April. On

May 4 a nest was found, saddled near the end of a horizontal limb of a live-oak which stood in a pasture in the valley, but near the mouth of Santa Paula Cañon. This nest contained *three* fresh eggs, which measured $.90 \times .64$, $.92 \times .62$, and $.89 \times .62$. Other nests were found May 12, 13, 17, and 19, and June 2. Of the seven nests found by me only one was out in the valley, the others all being in Santa Paula Cañon. All of these nests were in live-oaks, but I have since been informed by Mr. Fred. Corey of Santa Paula, that he has recently found them in pepper-trees, blue-gums, and elders. From these seven nests twenty eggs were obtained, *three* being the number in each clutch except one, which contained but two. In Arizona, Capt. Bendire has found many nests of this bird, but with never more than two eggs in a set, and it was not known that more than two eggs to the set were ever laid until these nests were found by me.* The average measurements of eighteen eggs are $.925 \times .652$, and thus somewhat larger than those of Arizona specimens.

In the 'Ornithologist and Oölogist,' Vol. VII, p. 179, I speak of the song of this bird, which I have often heard at nightfall in the cañon above mentioned. This song is sweet and plaintive, agreeing essentially with the description of Dr. J. G. Cooper and Dr. Coues, who seem to be the only observers who have hitherto been willing to credit the *Phainopepla* with any ability as a bird of song.

Santa Paula Cañon seems to be the favorite ground in this county for this bird; only in three other places in the county have I seen it. These are (1) a few individuals in the Santa Clara Valley about Santa Paula, (2) several in the beautiful Ojai Valley, seven to ten miles from Santa Paula, and (3) among the gnarled and moss-grown oaks on the Cacitas Pass, between San Buenaventura and Santa Barbara, where I saw a number in the month of June, but did not have leisure to search for nests.

162. **Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides*. (622 a.) WHITE-RUMPED SHRIKE.—A common resident. This bird is often mistaken for the Mockingbird by the common people, who wonder why the pets they have reared with such care show no inclination to sing.

163. **Vireo gilvus*. (627.) WARBLING VIREO.—Summer resident, but not common.

164. *Vireo huttoni*. (632.) HUTTON'S VIREO.—Not common. Probably breeds in the county.

165. *Vireo bellii pusillus*. (633 a.) LEAST VIREO.—I am not sure that I ever saw this bird, but think I saw a few among the oaks near Si-Sa Cañon in January.

166. *Dendroica æstiva*. (652.) YELLOW WARBLER.—A common migrant. Some may remain to breed, but I do not know that its nest has ever been found in the county.

167. *Dendroica auduboni*. (656.) AUDUBON'S WARBLER.—An abundant winter resident. This is by far the most common species of the family found on the coast.

[* On this point see also W. E. D. Scott, Auk, Vol. II, pp. 242-246, especially the last paragraph of p. 246.—EDD.]

168. *Dendroica graciae*. (664.) GRACE'S WARBLER.—I never saw but one specimen of this beautiful Warbler,—a male in fine plumage which I shot from a cottonwood tree near Santa Paula, May 3, 1881.

169. *Dendroica nigrescens*. (665.) BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER.

170. *Dendroica occidentalis*. (669.) HERMIT WARBLER.—I never secured specimens of either of these two rare Warblers, but I am confident I have seen them both in the county in April.

171. *Geothlypis macgillivrayi*. (680.) MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER.—Migrant. Not common.

172. **Geothlypis trichas occidentalis*. (681 a.) WESTERN YELLOW-THROAT.—A common resident, nesting in the grass or tules about low marshy places.

173. **Icteria virens longicauda*. (683 a.) LONG-TAILED CHAT.—A common summer resident. A very eccentric bird in more ways than one. Often sings at night.

174. **Sylvania pusilla pileolata*. (685 a.) PILEOLATED WARBLER.—Common summer resident in suitable places. Arrives about the first week in April. I found it abundant in the willows near the mouths of the Santa Clara and San Buenaventura Rivers, where I secured its nest and eggs.

175. *Anthus pensilvanicus*. (697.) AMERICAN PIPIT.—An occasional winter visitant.

176. **Cinclus mexicanus*. (701.) AMERICAN DIPPER.—Frequent along the mountain streams. One of the chief friends of the mountain camper.

177. *Oroscoptes montanus*. (702.) SAGE THRASHER.—A rare migrant. One specimen obtained March 12, 1881, on the Rocky Flat above Santa Paula.

178. **Mimus polyglottos*. (703.) MOCKINGBIRD.—A common resident. The most renowned of our singing Thrushes. It may often be heard singing at any hour of the night.

179. **Harporhynchus redivivus*. (710.) CALIFORNIAN THRASHER.—A common resident and noted songster. May be known by its plain brown color and long decurved bill. Nests as early as February 21.

180. **Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*. (713.) CACTUS WREN.—A common summer resident where cacti are abundant.

181. **Salpinctes obsoletus*. (715.) ROCK WREN.—Rare. Perhaps resident in the rocky cañons of the county.

182. **Catherpes mexicanus conspersus*. (717 a.) CANON WREN.—Frequent in the higher and rocky cañons, where it is probably resident.

183. **Thryothorus bewickii spilurus*. (719 a.) VIGORS'S WREN.—Rather common locally, but rare about Santa Paula. Resident.

184. **Troglodytes ædon parkmani*. (721 a.) PARKMAN'S WREN.—An abundant resident throughout the county. Nests in knot holes, hollow limbs, old tin cans, coat sleeves that chance to be hanging in accessible places,—anywhere that happens to strike their fancy.

185. *Sitta carolinensis aculeata*. (727 a.) SLENDER-BILLED NUT-HATCH.—A rare winter visitant.

186. **Parus inornatus*. (733.) PLAIN TITMOUSE.—Common resident,—most frequent among clumps of live-oaks.

187. *Parus atricapillus occidentalis*. (735 a.) OREGON CHICKADEE.—A rare winter resident.

188. **Chamæa fasciata*. (742.) WREN-TIT.—Rather common resident. Frequents sage-brush and other chaparral.

189. **Psaltiriparus minimus*. (743.) LEAST TIT.—A rather common resident; found in small flocks of from six to ten in winter. Breeds early, building a long pensile nest, which it usually attaches to the limb of a live-oak. The nest varies much in length, ranging from 4 to 22 inches in extreme length. (See Gentry's 'Nests and Eggs of Birds of the United States,' 131, 1882.)

190. *Regulus satrapa olivaceus*. (748 a.) WESTERN GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.—With the preceding, a rare winter resident.

191. *Regulus calendula*. (749.) RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.—I often met with this diminutive bird among the oaks of the foothills, but only in winter. I do not know that I ever saw it in the valley or larger cañons.

192. **Polioptila cærulea*. (751.) BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER.—This little bird is a moderately common resident, nesting usually in the live-oaks, about the middle of May.

193. **Polioptila californica*. (753.) BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER.—Not so common as the preceding. Resident.

194. *Myadestes townsendii*. (754.) TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE.—A very rare migrant. I saw it once or twice in the spring of 1881.

195. *Turdus ustulatus*. (758.) RUSSET-BACKED THRUSH.—A spring and fall migrant. Not common.

196. *Turdus aonalaschkæ*. (759.) DWARF HERMIT THRUSH.—A migrant with the preceding. Perhaps not so common.

197. *Merula migratoria propinqua*. (761 a.) WESTERN ROBIN.—An abundant winter resident.

198. *Hesperocichla nævia*. (763.) VARIED THRUSH.—A rare winter visitant; seen only on one occasion.

199. **Sialia mexicana*. (767.) WESTERN BLUEBIRD.—This bird is a common resident, but seems to lack some of those characteristics which make our eastern species so great a favorite. It is but rarely seen about our dwellings, but stays in more secluded retreats. Boxes which, raised on poles in the garden or about the barn, so readily tempt the eastern cousin, have no charms for our wild western bird. But time, the civilizer, will doubtless work a reform in this bird, and then, instead of confining itself to the oak-grown foothills in winter, and to the cañons and remoter parts of the valleys in summer, it will learn that we are its friends, and will come and build its nest in the hollow limb of the tree by the house, and in the box raised from the garden fence.

200. *Sialia arctica*. (768.) MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD.—A rare winter visitant. A single individual was seen in December, near Saticoy.